

The California Water Plan Update 2005 is organized in five volumes:

Volume 1: Strategic Plan

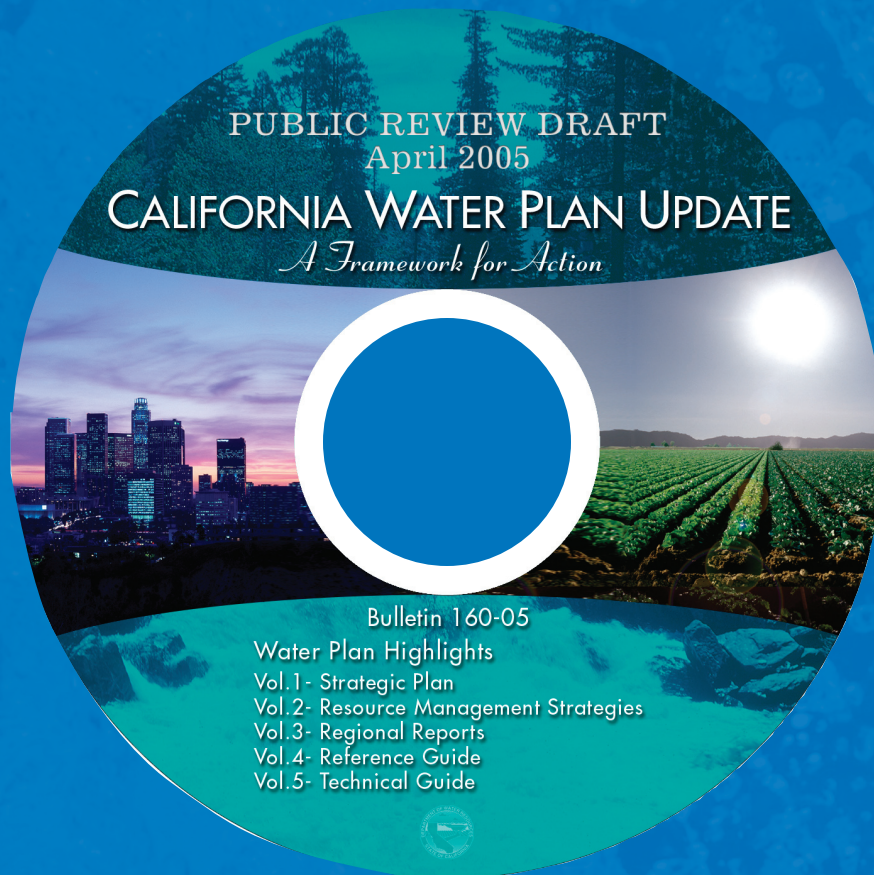
Volume 2: 25 Resource Management Strategies

Volume 3: 12 Regional Reports

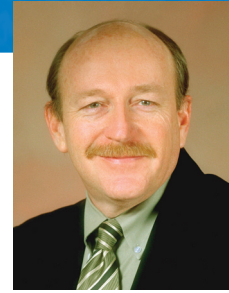
Volume 4: Reference Guide (50+ articles)

Volume 5: Technical Guide (Online documentation)

The public review draft of the California Water Plan Update 2005 and the Water Plan Highlights briefing book were released in April 2005. The five volumes of the update and the Highlights document are contained in the CD below and also available online at www.waterplan.water.ca.gov. The Highlights and Volume 1 are also available as printed documents. If you need this publication in alternate form, contact the Public Affairs Office at 1-800-272-8869.



Director's Message



This briefing book presents highlights from Bulletin 160-05, the first Water Plan update of the 21st century. The Department of Water Resources first published the California Water Plan in 1957 and has updated it seven times prior to this latest edition.

California water management has changed significantly over the past 40 years. Today, there is greater recognition of the need to manage water as a vital natural resource. In addition, regional water planning has begun to integrate diverse water and resource management activities to meet a wide range of local objectives and to respond to demand and supply uncertainties.

California Water Plan Update 2005 reflects these changes in water management. Past updates assessed California's water needs, evaluated water supplies, and tried to quantify a gap between them. California Water Plan Update 2005 goes beyond a forecast of statewide water demand and supply. For the first time in the Bulletin 160 series, the water plan includes a strategic plan with goals, recommendations, and actions for meeting the challenges of sustainable water use in the face of uncertainty. This plan is a roadmap for meeting our water demands of 2030.

This water plan update is the product of a collaborative process that brought together the Department of Water Resources, a 65-member advisory committee representing urban, agricultural, and environmental interests, a 350-member extended review forum, and 2,000 interested members of the public. The result is a plan that includes the very best ideas for meeting our water challenges. The new update describes short-term and long-term actions that can be implemented at the state and regional level, and it identifies a portfolio of 25 resource management strategies that can be used to sustain California's communities, economy, and environment.

The conclusion of California Water Plan Update 2005 is clear: Californians can meet their water demands through the year 2030 if we make the right choices and investments. The Department of Water Resources will work with State policy-makers, local and regional entities, and other interests to take the actions needed to meet the state's water needs now and in the years to come.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lester Snow'.

Lester Snow
April 7, 2005